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DATE: March 22, 2004

TO: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office/Art Unit 1638
Attn: Examiner David H. Kruse

FROM: Eric J. Kron

Re: Appl. No.: 09/954,950 Confirmation No.: 8514
Applicant(s): Mahajan et al.
Filed: September 18, 2001
Art Unit: 1638
Title: RICE MLH1 ORTHOLOG AND USES THEREOF

Enclosed is an Amendment After Final (16 pages) w/Appendices 1-5.

Part I of II

NO. OF PAGES:
(Including cover page)

52/30

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REQUESTED BY: Nora Martinez

RTA01/2152178v1

PAGE 1/30 * RCVD AT 3/22/2004 6:14:00 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/2 * DNI:8729306 * CSID:9198622260 * DURATION (mm:ss):14:56

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PATENT

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 - EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1638**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICE

Appl. No.:	09/954,950	Confirmation No.:	8514
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Examiner:	David H. Kruse		
Title:	RICE MILLS ORTHOLOC AND USES THEREOF		
Docket No.:	035718/238971(5718-142)		
Customer No.:	00826		

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated January 21, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including **Tabs 1-5**, as described below, is attached following page 16 of this paper.

NTA01/2149369v1